

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-19 (Cancelled).

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Claim 20 (New): A method of making a polyvinyl alcohol film, which comprises the steps of:

preparing a film material containing polyvinyl alcohol, 0.01 to 1 part by weight of a nonionic surfactant relative to 100 parts by weight of the polyvinyl alcohol, and water, said film material having a volatile component in a quantity within the range of 50 to 90% by weight; and

discharging the film material from a die of a flexible lip system onto a surface of a drum to form a polyvinyl alcohol film on said drum surface;

wherein said polyvinyl alcohol film has a thickness within the range of 20 to 150 μm and also has a width of at least 2 m, a variance of said film thickness along the transverse direction being 0.5 $\mu\text{m}/\text{mm}$ or less.

Claim 21 (New): The method according to Claim 20, wherein the film material is discharged onto the surface of the drum, which is plated with chromium, to thereby form the polyvinyl alcohol film.

Claim 22 (New): The method according to claim 20, wherein the variance in thickness along the transverse direction of the film is 0.28 $\mu\text{m}/\text{mm}$ or less.

Claim 23 (New): The method according to claim 20, wherein the thickness of the film is within the range of 40 to 120 μm .

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Claim 24 (New): The method according to claim 20, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol film is further processed to make a polarization film.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

All the claims have been cancelled and replaced with new Claims 20-24, drawn to a method of making a polyvinyl alcohol film. Claim 20 is supported by the combination of Claims 1, 10, 12, 14 and 15; and the disclosure at page 8, lines 10-13 and 18-20; page 9, lines 14-18, and Examples 1-4, the latter for the disclosure of water. Claim 21 is supported in the specification at page 9, lines 1-9. Claims 22-24 correspond to Claims 2-4, respectively.

No new matter has been added by the above amendment. With entry thereof, Claims 20-24 will be pending in the application.